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REMARKS

In response to the Final Office Action mailed on June 3, 2005, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration.

Applicants would like to thank Examiner Choudhury for attending the interview on July 28, 2005 to discuss patentability of the pending claims. The interview included a discussion regarding the invention as recited in claims 10, 14, 15, 33, and 37 in light of DuFresne, U.S. Patent 5,835,712. Examiner Choudhury seemed persuaded by our discussion regarding uniqueness of the pending claims over DuFresne, but reserved providing a decision regarding patentability at the conclusion of the interview. The Examiner assured further consideration of the pending claims when this reply to the outstanding office action was received.

The following remarks address the rejections of pending claims as set out in the Office Action and are consistent with the reasons discussed in the interview with the Examiner.

Applicants have rewritten claim 1 to include the limitations set forth in previously pending claims 5 and 6 in order to expedite prosecution of the present application. Applicants have rewritten claim 10 to include the limitations of claims 14 and 15 to expedite prosecution of the present application. Thus, claims 5, 6, 14, and 15 are being cancelled by way of this amendment. Applicants make no admission that originally submitted claims 1 and 10 are not patentable and reserve the right to pursue such claims in a continuation application.

Applicants encourage the Examiner to call the undersigned attorney of record if a discussion would be helpful towards furthering prosecution of the present application.

Rejections of Claims 1-37 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Applicants have rewritten claim 1 to include the limitations set forth in previously pending claims 5 and 6 in order to expedite prosecution of the present application. Claims 5 and 6 are therefore being cancelled. The Examiner has rejected claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) based on the teachings of DuFresne, (U.S. Patent 5,835,712). Applicants are appreciative of the Examiner's review of previously pending claim 6 and respectfully request further consideration of same in view of the following discussion pointing out why amended claim 1 (i.e., previously pending claim 6) is unique over the cited prior art.

The claimed invention involves passing a data value from a first browser page to a second browser page via a browser page identifier (now recited to be a URL) used by the browser to retrieve the second browser page. The exchange of a data value happens at the browser level and does not require that a server serving the second browser page maintain or process the data value appended to the URL. For example, according to the claimed invention, the browser supports retrieving a data element appended to the URL for use by an application logic entity associated with the second browser page. Applicants respectfully submit that passing information by appending a data value to a URL and, thereafter, utilizing a respective browser to support retrieving the data value appended to the URL for use by a second browser page is not equivalent to techniques recited in DuFresne. The claimed invention reduces the need for the server to maintain or process the information being passed from one browser page to another.

Claim 1 recites that its respective steps take place "In a browser." This means that a single browser supports "a method for transferring information between logic entities in browser pages." In other words, the first and second browser pages as further recited in claim 1 are retrieved via a single browser. Additionally, claim 1 recites "retrieving the value of the data element from the

browser page identifier for use by the second application logic entity.” For example, the browser supports retrieval of the data element (from the browser page identifier such as a URL) associated with the first browser page for use by the second browser page.

Thus, the difference between the cited art and the claimed invention is how information is passed from one browser page to another. In the present invention, passing of the data element is done via the browser page identifier or URL associated with the second browser page as generated by a logic entity associated with the first browser page. In comparison, according to DuFresne, a server (not a browser) embeds information received from a first web page into a web form that is eventually used to generate a respective web page in a receiving browser.

Now, more specifically addressing the passages cited by the Examiner to reject the claimed invention, DuFresne at column 19, line 50 to column 20, line 37 discloses a method of passing information between web pages. The pertinent language discussing FIG. 18 reads as follows:

On Web P1 450 the user, after selecting a choice of inputs 462, presses the SELECT button 466 to transmit the selections. In response, the server 458 processes the script 468 and generates a new state 470 based on the information gained from the old state variable 464, inputs 462 and script 468. The new state 470 is then embedded into a subsequent Web form 452. In the preferred embodiment, the resulting state variables are transmitted using a known network protocol or through the use of HTML hidden fields. Through each subsequent process (i.e., as shown in 453, 455, and 457), the state variable is accumulated and passed from one Web page to another. All the while, the server performs the normal task of accessing templates and processing the tag extensions for merging data records. (Emphasis Added)

Thus, DuFresne discloses a technique in which a user retrieves a web page by clicking on select button 466. Server 458 utilizes state information 464 and

inputs 462 received from a first web page to generate new state information 470 that is embedded into web form 452 that is used to generate web page #2.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that the claimed invention is distinct over this recited technique in DuFresne for at least two reasons. First, there is no indication in DuFresne that a browser supports generating a URL that includes an appended data value and, thereafter, invoking access to the second browser page via use of the URL that includes the appended data value. Second, and perhaps more importantly, there is no indication in DuFresne that a browser supports a step of retrieving a data value appended to a URL so that the data element can be used by another browser page in the same browser.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention provides utility not taught or suggested by DuFresne. For example, the claimed invention is a way of passing data from one browser page to another by appending data to a URL and retrieving data from the URL in a browser that creates a second browser page.

Based on the aforementioned remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the invention as recited in amended claim 1 is neither anticipated nor obvious because it includes a unique and useful configuration not taught or suggested by DuFresne or any other reference of record. Thus, in view of the foregoing discussion, Applicants submit that amended claim 1 is patentably distinct and advantageous over the cited prior art, and the lack of novelty rejection should be withdrawn. Accordingly, allowance of claim 1 as well as corresponding dependent claims 2-4, 7-9 and 21-26 is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claim 4 includes additional limitations not disclosed by DuFresne. For example, claim 4 recites "parsing the browser page identifier to retrieve a value for a data element from the browser

page identifier.” DuFresne would have no reason to parse a browser page identifier because there is no indication that the browser page identifier would include any useful information such as a data value.

Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claim 7 includes additional limitations not disclosed by DuFresne. For example, claim 7 recites that “steps of generating and invoking are performed in response to the step of detecting the navigation command to navigate to the second browser page, such that the browser page identifier produced in response to the step of detecting the navigation command includes a value for the data element that is created by the first application logic entity and is passed to the second application logic entity via the browser page identifier.” Thus, initiation of the navigation command according to the claimed invention prompts the browser to append the data value to the URL for transmission to a server. DuFresne does not send data by appending information to a URL.

Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claim 8 includes additional limitations not disclosed by DuFresne. For example, claim 8 recites a technique of utilizing state sender logic and state retrieval logic associated with respective browser pages to send a data value from a first browser page and receive the data value at a second browser page. DuFresne also does not recite state retrieval logic associated with the second browser page to retrieve information appended to a URL.

Amended claim 10 includes similar limitations as recited in claim 1 above. For example, claim 10 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 14 and 15. For applicable reasons as discussed above, claim 10 and corresponding dependent claims 11-13, 16-18 and 27-37 are patentably distinct over the cited prior art.

Claim 33 recites a “state sender logic entity of the first browser page” and “state retrieval logic entity of the second browser page” to pass data between browser pages via use of a URL that is also used to retrieve a browser page. Applicants respectfully submit that none of the cited references discloses utilizing state retrieval logic entity of the second browser page to receive the value of the data element appended to the browser page identifier such as a URL.

Claim 35 recites concatenation of a string of text for passing from one browser page to another. As an example, assume a first browser page has a data value of text string “ABC.” This value is passed from the first browser page to the second browser page via the identifier used to retrieve the second browser page. In furtherance of the example, assume the second browser page has a value DEF associated with it. The second browser page concatenates the value ABC with DEF to produce ABCDEF and appends this value to an identifier to retrieve a third browser page. In this way, the value of a “passed” string or data value can change from one browser page to another to include data from multiple web pages. None of the cited references disclose this technique of modifying and passing a variable from successive browser pages via respective browser page identifiers.

Claim 37 recites that a step of generating the browser page identifier for the second browser page includes providing a delimiter between a first portion and a second portion of the browser page identifier. The first portion of the browser page identifier is used by a server to serve the second browser page to the browser; the second portion of the browser page identifier includes the value of the data element being passed from the first browser page to the second browser page. The value of the data element is ignored by a server, which serves the second browser page to the browser. In comparison, DuFresne does not disclose use of a delimiter in a browser page identifier providing a partition

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between a browser page identifier used by a respective server to retrieve a browser page and a data value used by the retrieved browser page. Nor does DuFresne disclose that the value of a data element appended to a URL is ignored by the server as in the claimed invention. Furthermore, DuFresne discloses that the server uses the data information associated with a first web page to generate a new set of state information for a second web page. That is, the server in DuFresne does not "ignore" the data value appended to a URL while serving a respective browser page. Instead, the server in DuFresne processes the information to include it in a new web form sent to the browser.

Claim 19 and claim 20 each includes similar limitations as recited in originally submitted claim 1. For applicable reasons as discussed above, Applicants submit that claims 19 and 20 are patentably distinct over the cited prior art.

CONCLUSION

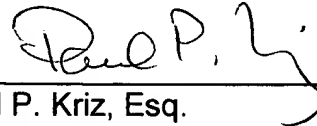
In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. A Notice to this affect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, after reviewing this Response, that the pending claims are not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the Applicant(s) Representative at the number below.

Applicants hereby petition for any extension of time which is required to maintain the pendency of this case. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 50-0901.

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If the enclosed papers or fees are considered incomplete, the Patent Office is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned Attorney at (508) 366-9600, in Westborough, Massachusetts.

Respectfully submitted,



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